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NEW YORK, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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BROOKLYN BOTTLING OF MILTON, :

NEW YORK, INC., : Index No. 07 CIV 8483 (AKH)

Plaintiff,

.

-against- : AMENDED COMPLAINT

:

ECUABEVERAGE, CORP.

Defendant.

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For its Amended Complaint, Brooklyn Bottling of Milton, New York, Inc. allege as follows:

## NATURE OF THE CASE

This is an action by Plaintiff Brooklyn Bottling of Milton, New York, Inc, the assignee of the federally registered trademark TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL for soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks. Plaintiff Brooklyn Bottling of Milton, New York, Inc., is the exclusive licensor of said mark and has claims against Defendant Ecuabeverage, Corp., for trademark infringement and unfair competition.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331

and 1338(a) & (b).

2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant Ecuabeverage, Corp., because it is a New York State Corporation and it regularly conducts business in this judicial district.

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 3. Plaintiff Brooklyn Bottling of Milton, New York, Inc. ("BROOKLYN") is a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New York.
- 4. BROOKLYN is a soft drink bottling company and distributor of soft drinks.
- 5. BROOKLYN is the exclusive assignee from Royal Signature, Inc. ("ROYAL"), a Panama corporation and the registrant of the federal trademark registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") for TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL, ("the MARK"), in class 032 for soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks. The MARK was originally registered on January 26, 1988 in the name of Royal and given registration number 1474395; and was, assigned to Brooklyn and registered.
- 6. Pursuant to an agreement dated June 1, 2007, between BROOKLYN and ROYAL, BROOKLYN was assigned the exclusive rights to use the federally registered trademark TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL for use with soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks.
- 7. As a result, BROOKLYN owns the exclusive rights in this jurisdiction to use TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL for soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks.

- 8. BROOKLYN is entitled to an injunction against others, including the defendant, who use the TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL mark or confusingly similar marks in connection with the same or related types of goods.
- 9. Defendant does use the TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL mark or confusingly similar marks on or in connection with the same or related types of goods.
- 10. Defendant's use of the MARK includes the ® symbol, which is the USPTO symbol for a registered trademark.
- 11. Defendant is not the owner of the registered mark, nor has it received any authority to use the mark from ROYAL, the original registrant or BROOKLYN the current registrant as well as assignee of the exclusive rights.
- 12. Based on Defendant's conduct, in selling products with the MARK or similarly confusing marks without authorization, BROOKLYN's counsel sent a cease and desist letter to Defendant accusing Defendant of infringing BROOKLYN's exclusive rights in the territory.
- 13. BROOKLYN demanded that Defendant stop distribution of beverages bearing the mark or similarly confusing marks, cease using the phrase TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL, or any version thereof, and cease using images similar to those used on BROOKLYN's labels affixed to the soft drink bottles.

# COUNT I

(Trademark Infringement under the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114)

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  - BROOKLYN repeats and realleges each allegation set forth in the preceding
- paragraphs as if set forth herein.

14.

15. Defendant has used and/or is using in commerce a trademark, which is a

reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or derivative imitation of the MARK, in connection with the

sale, offers for sale, distribution, or advertising of soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the

preparation of making soft drinks, which such use is likely to cause confusion, or to cause

mistake, or to deceive.

16. As a direct and proximate result of such trademark infringement, BROOKLYN

has suffered and will continue to suffer monetary loss and irreparable injury to its business,

reputation, and goodwill.

17. Defendant has committed such acts with knowledge that such imitation is intended

to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive.

18. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## **COUNT II**

(Trademark Infringement under the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114)

- 19. BROOKLYN repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1
- through 18 as if fully set forth herein.
- 20. Defendant has used and is using in commerce various marks, which are derived

from the MARK and constitute a reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation of the

registered MARK which BROOKLYN possesses exclusivity in connection with the sale, offers

for sale, distribution, or advertisements for soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the

preparation of making soft drinks, in connection with which such use is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive.

- 21. By adopting such similar marks, the Defendant has reproduced, counterfeited, copied, or colorably imitated the registered MARK which BROOKLYN possesses exclusivity and is using such reproductions, counterfeits, copies, or colorable imitations in commerce in connection with the sale, offers for sale, or advertising of for soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks, in connection with which such use is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive.
- 22. As a direct and proximate result of such trademark infringement, BROOKLYN has suffered and will continue to suffer monetary loss and irreparable injury to its business, reputation, and goodwill.
- 23. Defendants have committed such acts with knowledge that such imitation is intended to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive.
- 24. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## COUNT III

(Unfair Competition under the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a))

- 25. BROOKLYN repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 24 as if set forth herein.
- 26. Defendant's use of the MARK and other derivative marks in commerce in connection with the sale of goods constitutes a false designation of origin, false or misleading

description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact, which is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of Defendant with ROYAL and/or BROOKLYN, or as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of Defendant's goods by ROYAL and/or BROOKLYN.

- 27. As a direct and proximate result of such unfair competition, BROOKLYN has suffered and will continue to suffer monetary loss and irreparable injury to its business, reputation, and goodwill.
- 28. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## COUNT IV

(Trade dress infringement under § 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a))

- 29. BROOKLYN repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 28 as if set forth herein.
- 30. The trade dress of the bottle and design affixed to the bottle by BROOKLYN has obtained "secondary meaning" in the marketplace.
- 31. The trade dress of the two competing products is confusingly similar and likely to cause confusion in the marketplace.
- 32 That the appropriated features of the trade dress are primarily nonfunctional.
- 33. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## COUNT V

(Unfair competition under common law)

- 34. BROOKLYN repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 33 as if set forth herein.
- 35. Defendant has engaged in unfair competition under the common law of the State of New York.
- 36. As the direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct BROOKLYN has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 37. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## **COUNT VI**

(Prohibited Importation Pursuant to Sec. 526 of the 1930 Tariff Act, 19 U.S.C. Sec., 1526)

- 38. BROOKLYN repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 37 as if set forth herein.
- 39. Section 526 of the 1930 Tariff Act, 19 U.S.C. Sec., 1526 prohibits entry into the United States of any merchandise of foreign manufacture if such merchandise bears a trademark owned by a citizen of, or by a corporation or association created or organized within, the United States, and registered in the Patent and Trademark Office by a person domiciled in the United States unless written consent of the owner of such trademark is produced at the time of making entry.
- 40. Defendants imported and continues to import soft drinks manufactured in Ecuador which bear the Tropical mark registered by Royal Signature and assigned exclusively to Plaintiff BROOKLYN without the written consent of Plaintiff.
- 41. As the direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct BROOKLYN has suffered and will continue to suffer damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

42. The Defendant is directly liable for the infringing conduct.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff BROOKLYN respectfully requests that the Court:

- A. Grant temporary, preliminary and permanent injunctive relief prohibiting Defendant, its successors, assigns and agents from:
- Using the TROPICAL PURO SABOR NACIONAL and any confusingly similar marks in connection with any soft drinks and flavored syrups used in the preparation of making soft drinks;
- 2. Pursuing or maintaining federal or state trademark applications or registrations for any version of the MARK or any confusingly similar marks; and
- Owning or using any domain names comprised of the term TROPICAL PURO
   SABOR NACIONAL or any confusingly similar domain name.
- B. Award compensatory, consequential, statutory, exemplary, and other damages (including, but not limited to actual damages, profits, award for corrective advertising) to BROOKLYN for each cause of action in an amount to be determined at trial;

- C. Award attorneys' fees and costs to BROOKLYN; and
- D. Grant to BROOKLYN whatever other relief is just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York February 20, 2008

JACOBSON & COLFIN, P.C.

By: \_\_\_\_/Jeffrey E. Jacobson/\_

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